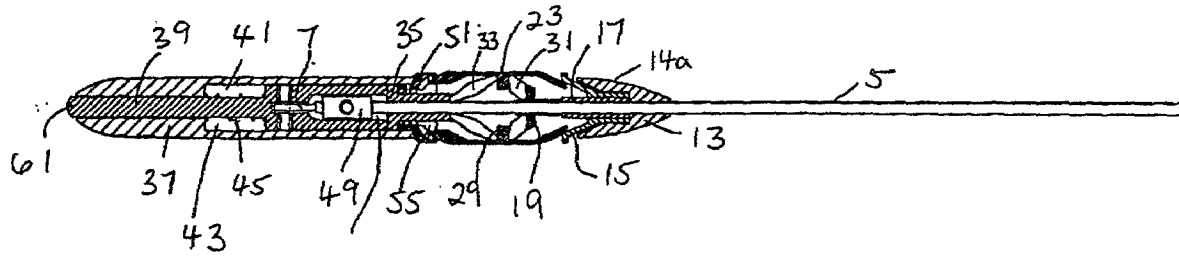




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<b>(54) Title:</b> ACTUATING AND LOCKING MECHANISM FOR A SURGICAL TOOL   <b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>An actuating mechanism for actuating a surgical tool of a surgical instrument comprises an actuating device having an actuator surface (21) whereby the actuating device is operable by applying a force to substantially any part (23) of the actuator surface (21) to place the actuating device in an actuated position (Figure 4) from a rest position (Figure 2) for actuating a surgical tool (not shown), wherein the actuator surface (21) comprises a radially collapsible cage having a plurality of interleaving actuating pads (23), each pad (23) being moveable in a radial direction.</p>		